

A bill for the relief of William Griffin; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Edwards, referred to the committee on Private Land Claims.

A bill to dispose by entry, sale, survey and patent of small tracts or fractions of the public domain, consisting of not exceeding one hundred and sixty acres each, confined on all, or, at least, two sides, by pre-existing lines of other surveys or grants; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Gage, referred to the committee on Public Lands.

A bill requiring all genuine evidences of claim to land to be located by a time therein specified; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Allen, referred to the same committee.

A joint resolution to amend the Constitution of the State of Texas; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Paschal, referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

On motion of Mr. Lott, the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY, November 18, 1853.

The Senate was called to order by the President pursuant to adjournment—roll called—quorum present.

The journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Jowers, chairman of the committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred a bill requiring all genuine evidences of claim to land to be located by a time therein specified, reported the same back to the Senate and recommended its passage.

Mr. Jowers, from the same committee, made the following report:

The committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred a bill to be entitled an act to reduce into one act, and amend the several acts granting to settlers on vacant public domain pre-emption privileges, have instructed me to report the bill back to the Senate, with the following amendment, and recommend its passage:

Insert in the caption, between the words "to" and "settlers," "actual."

The committee are of the opinion that it is not the true policy of our State, with her one hundred millions of vacant public domain, a small public debt, and two or three millions of surplus money in her treasury, to attempt to speculate over the heads of her citizens in her unappropriated lands. To entirely hold up, or to fix a high price on her public lands at this time the committee are of opinion would greatly retard the settlement of the

country, and wholly prevent a class of poor, yet honest and industrious citizens, from procuring a small home, upon which they might be enabled to rear and educate to useful habits and pursuits their children. In addition to the above, the committee are of the opinion that the passage of this bill by the Legislature would bring an immense revenue to the State treasury, by taxation, that would not be realized in any other way for years to come.

Mr. Jowers, chairman of the committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of Wm. Henry Dangerfield, praying for relief, reported the same back to the Senate, and asked its reference to the committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Jowers, from the same committee, also made the following report :

The committee on Public Lands, to whom was referred the petition of J. S. W. C. Walker, a bill for the relief of the heirs of Matthew Burnett, and a bill to authorize Bartlett Sims to raise a location therein named, and locate the same upon any vacant land, have instructed me to report a general bill to the Senate that will include the above named petitions and bills, as well as all others similarly situated.

The following bill accompanied said report :

A bill to authorize the cancelling of patents in certain cases; read first time.

Mr. Potter, chairman of the committee on the Judiciary, made the following report :

The Judiciary committee have had under consideration the petition of M. F. Valdes, asking for relief, he having acted as interpreter in causes in the district court of Cameron county. The law fixes the fees of interpreters, and they are taxed and collected as a portion of the taxable costs in each cause in which an interpreter is sworn. Such being the case, the committee do not think it either expedient or proper for the State to undertake to compensate persons for their services in this or like cases. The committee, therefore, recommend that no further action be taken on the petition, and they ask to be discharged from its further consideration.

Mr. Potter, from the same committee to whom was referred a bill to prevent vice and immorality on the Sabbath, reported the same back to the Senate without any recommendation, and ask to be discharged from its further consideration.

Mr. Potter, from the same committee, also made the following report :

The Judiciary committee have considered a bill to be entitled

an act to define the duties of clerks of the district courts in certain cases. The object of the bill is to provide for a final record being kept in all civil causes by the clerks of the several district courts of the State, and fixes their compensation for the same. The committee do not believe that the benefits to be derived from the proposed act would be commensurate with the increased costs in judicial proceedings thereby cast upon suitors; they have, therefore, directed me to return the bill to the Senate and recommend that it do not pass.

Mr. Hart, chairman of the committee on Rules, to whom was referred the Rules of the Senate, reported the following amendments and recommended their adoption:

1st amendment—25th rule, first line, strike out "three" and insert "five." Add to the same rule, "no call of the House shall be had after the previous question shall have been ordered by the Senate."

2d amendment—strike out the 38th Rule.

Mr. Guinn, from the committee on Engrossed Bills, reported the following bills correctly engrossed:

A bill for the relief of James McGloin;

A bill supplementary to an act entitled an act supplementary to and amending an act for the relief of citizens of Mercer's Colony, approved February 2, 1850; and

A bill to incorporate the Grand Temple of Honor of the State of Texas and subordinate Temples under its jurisdiction.

Mr. Scott, chairman of the committee on Finance, to whom was referred a bill to perpetuate and keep in force an act relinquishing to the counties the State tax for the years 1852 and 1853, approved February 13th, 1853, for the years 1854 and 1855, reported the same back to the Senate, and recommended its passage, with the following amendments:

1st. Amend the caption so as to read as follows: "An act relinquishing to the counties the State tax for the years 1854 and 1855."

2d. Amend the 9th section, by striking out the words "two and a half," whenever they occur in said section; and insert in lieu thereof the words "one and a half."

Mr. Edwards, chairman of the committee on Printing and Contingent Expenses, made the following report:

The committee on Printing and Contingent Expenses, who were instructed by the action of the Senate to report a bill making an appropriation for the mileage and per diem pay of the members of the present Legislature, recommend that the same be referred to the Finance committee.

Mr. Lott introduced a bill to incorporate the Tyler and Dallas Railroad Company; read first time.

Mr. Durst introduced a bill supplementary to an act making appropriations to defray the expenses of three companies of volunteers called into service of the State for the protection of the frontier; read first time.

Mr. Martin introduced a bill to amend the 28th section of an act concerning crimes and misdemeanors, of date March 20th, 1848; read first time.

Mr. Scott offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on State Affairs be requested to take into consideration the propriety of passing a law preventing the practice of carrying deadly weapons concealed; and report by bill or otherwise.

Mr. Taylor offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the committee on Public Lands be requested to take under consideration the propriety of the passage of some law allowing holders of legal land certificates to locate them in more than three parcels, when the last survey has included all the vacant domain adjoining said survey, and report by bill or otherwise.

ORDERS OF THE DAY.

A bill for the relief of James McGloin; read third time and passed.

A bill incorporating the Grand Temple of Honor of the State of Texas, and subordinate Temples under its jurisdiction; read third time, and passed by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Allen, Bryan, Burks, Doane, Durst, Edwards, Gage, Guinn, Hart, Hill, Holland, Jowers, Kyle, Lott, Martin, McAnelly, McDade, Newman, Potter, Scarborough, Scott, Superviele, Taylor, Weatherford and Wren—25.

NAYS—None.

A bill supplementary to an act entitled an act supplementary to and amending an act for the relief of citizens of Mercer's Colony, approved February 2d, 1850; read third time, and, on motion of Mr. McAnelly, laid on the table.

A bill to amend the second section of an act amending an act authorizing and requiring the county courts to regulate roads, appoint overseers, &c., approved Jan. 19th, 1850; read.

Mr. Scott moved to amend the first section by striking out the following words: "Between the months of April and August, and between the months of September and January."

On motion of Mr. Bryan, the bill and amendment were re-committed to the committee on Roads, Bridges and Ferries.

A bill to re-organize the Grayson, Cook and Denton county land districts; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Allen, referred to the committee on Public Lands.

A bill to amend an act entitled an act to incorporate the city of Brownsville, approved February 7th, 1853; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Kyle, referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

A bill concerning certain liabilities reported by the Auditor and Comptroller, and confirmed by the Legislature; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Potter, referred to the committee on Public Debt.

A bill to repeal a joint resolution for the punishment of vagrants, approved January 10th, 1839; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Holland, referred to the committee on the Penitentiary.

Resolution offered on yesterday by Mr. Holland, proposing the 32d degree of latitude as the basis for the general direction of the Pacific and Atlantic Railroad; read, and, on motion of Mr. Holland, laid on the table for the present.

A bill supplementary to an act to establish the New Orleans, Texas and Pacific Railway Company, for the extension of the New Orleans, Algiers and Opelousas Railway through Texas, approved February 16th, 1852; read second time, and, on motion of Mr. Edwards, referred to the committee on Internal Improvements.

Resolution of the Senate, that the Senate will proceed to classify its members under the requirements of the Constitution on Monday the 28th inst.; read and adopted.

On motion of Mr. Lott, the Senate adjourned until 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY, November 19, 1853.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Rev. Mr. Phillips—roll called—quorum present.

The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Bryan presented the petition of C. K. Reese, asking for land; referred to the committee on Private Land Claims.

Mr. Sublett presented the memorial of A. B. M'Gill for relief; which, on motion of Mr. Sublett, was referred to a select committee.

Messrs. Sublett, Potter, Hart, Kyle and Scott were appointed said committee.